

IN THE CLAIMS

~~Release cancel Claim 16.~~

~~16. (twice amended) A method for manufacturing a bearing element comprising the steps of:~~

~~forming a plurality of layers from a combination of a first material and a second material, wherein a first of said layers formed from a plurality of materials comprising at least one of polytetrafluoroethylene fibers, glass fibers, carbon fibers, and combinations thereof, and wherein a second of said layers is formed against the first layer and is formed from a single material;~~

~~forming the bearing element from the plurality of layers; and~~

~~impregnating each of the bearing element plurality of layers with a polyimide resin comprising polytetrafluoroethylene powder.~~

17. (once amended) A method in accordance with Claim 13 wherein:

c3 the first layer comprises polytetrafluoroethylene fibers and glass fibers;

the second layer comprises glass fibers;

the third layer comprises polytetrafluoroethylene fibers and glass fibers; and

the glass fibers are coated with an epoxy sizing.

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed October 28, 2002 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof. Submitted herewith is a Submission of Marked Up Paragraphs and Claims.

Claims 11, 13-15, and 17-20 are pending in this application. Claims 11 and 13-20 stand rejected. Claim 16 has been canceled.

The rejection of Claims 11 and 13-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is respectfully traversed. Specifically, Claims 11 and 17 have been amended to replace references to Teflon with the chemical name polytetrafluoroethylene, which Applicants